



# FIRST THINGS FIRST

## PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL

### Meeting Minutes

#### Call to Order

A Regular Meeting of the First Things First Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council was held on Thursday, March 12, 2015 at 11:30 a.m. The meeting was held at the Pascua Yaqui Tribal Education Center and Library, Conference Room 243, 5100 W Calle Tetakusim, Tucson, Arizona, 85757.

Chair Garcia welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at approximately 11:58 a.m. She also congratulated Jessica Brisson on her new position as Senior Director.

#### Members Present:

Cecilia Garcia  
Pete Guerrero  
John Jensen  
Juanita Ayala  
Shanna Tautolo  
Marilynn Sando

#### Members Absent:

Amalia Reyes  
Hector Youtsey  
Bill Rosenberg  
Veronica Darnell  
Francisco Munoz

#### Blessing

Member Guerrero provided a blessing.

#### Approval of January 29, 2015 Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council Meeting Minutes

Member Ayala moved to approve the minutes of the January 29, 2015 Regional Council meeting as presented, seconded by Member Guerrero. Motion carried.

#### Call to the Public

*Shanna Kukla, Pima Community College-* Ms. Kukla shared Pima Community College's appreciation of the new TEACH Scholarship model. She expressed the importance of scholarship students being able to take summer courses.

#### Presentation and Discussion: System Building- A. Parenting Education

Chair Garcia turned the floor over to Andrea Romero, Literacy Specialist at the Dr. Fernando Escalante Community Library and Resource Center. Ms. Romero presented information about the Book MAGiC workshops she conducts every other Tuesday at the library. She provided an update on workshop attendance, activities she does with parents and children, specific successes and how the program is being advertised.

#### Presentation and Discussion: System Building- B. Preschool Classroom at Johnson School

Chair Garcia turned the floor over to Laurie Dagostino, TUSD Pace Program Interim Coordinator. Ms. Dagostino provided an update on the preschool classroom at Johnson school. She highlighted the amount of collaboration that occurs between the First Things First classroom and the Project ABLE, Explorers and PACE classrooms. She let the regional council know that TUSD is committed to continuing to work together to provide services to the tribal children. Regional Director Tiburcia Yocupicio-Chambers let the regional council know that she and Member Rosenberg had had a meeting with TUSD staff on February 20 to discuss the partnership and they are planning on meeting again to discuss the memorandum of understanding further. Ms. Yocupicio-Chambers mentioned that they were also working on planning a site visit to Johnson school on the day of the next regional council meeting, April 9, 2015.

#### Discussion: Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council Governance Policy

Chair Garcia turned the floor over to Ms. Yocupicio-Chambers, who let the regional council know that Casey

Cullings, FTF Legal Counsel, had made a few changes to the governance policy template. She asked members to review the updated governance policy as they had time and offer any suggestions. The regional council decided that Member Darnell would be in charge of reviewing the document and presenting any changes. Ms. Yocupicio-Chambers mentioned that she hoped for the members to approve the governance policy by May or June.

#### **Presentation: Request for Grant Application Process**

Ms. Yocupicio-Chambers provided a brief overview of the RFGA process and an update on grants related to the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council. She mentioned that the Professional Development RFGA had been released and would close in April. She also let the regional council know that Member Sando would be part of the review committee, and reminded them that the recommendation would be presented at the May meeting and then go on to the State Board.

#### **Regional Director's Report**

Ms. Yocupicio-Chambers provided highlights from her regional director's report. She drew attention to a community outreach tactics survey that she, along with Aggie Hart, Community Outreach Coordinator, were asking the members to complete in order for Ms. Hart to gain an idea of the regional council's priority outreach audiences for the upcoming fiscal year.

Ms. Yocupicio-Chambers also asked the members to begin thinking about a person or organization within the Pascua Yaqui community who has been outstanding in spreading the importance of early childhood to nominate for FTF's new "Champion for Children" award. She asked the members to send any recommendations to her.

#### **Regional Council and Staff Announcements**

Member Ayala inquired about whether or not anyone from the regional council would be attending the Smart Start Conference this year. Ms. Yocupicio-Chambers let her know that she and Chair Garcia would be attending.

Ms. Yocupicio-Chambers also informed the regional council that Member Ayala would be part of the committee that will review proposals for tribal sessions for the 2015 FTF Early Childhood Summit.

#### **Future Agenda Items**

None at this time.

#### **Discussion and Possible Action: Announcement of Next Regular Meeting**

Chair Garcia announced that the next regular meeting of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council would be on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 11:30 a.m. at a location to be determined.

#### **Adjourn**

There being no further business, Chair Garcia adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted on this 14<sup>th</sup> Day of May, 2015.

  
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Emily McDuffie, Administrative Assistant II